September 21, 2015
Township Administration Building

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held tonight. Members present were Kurt Ahrens, Barbara Duffy and Lorna Rosenberg. Township liaison present was Nancy K. Gibson, Public Information Officer. See attached attendance sheet.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Ahrens called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

2. **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:** Ms. Duffy made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 20, 2015 meeting; seconded by Ms. Rosenberg. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. **Committee Reports:**

A. Communications and Engagement Committee: Mr. Ahrens invited suggestions for the September 2015 EAC e-Newsletter. Ms Gibson recommended the recent potato harvest from the Glenside Library community garden, which she posted to Facebook for Sustainable Sunday.

Mr. Ahrens then reported on his meeting with Township Manager Bryan Havir about how the EAC could help Township Staff focus more on sustainability in their duties. Mr. Havir said Staff reviewed the Township's Suitability Plan when it was adopted but a refresher on the 10 sustainability goals would be valuable. Mr. Havir also asked the EAC to develop a green purchasing policy. Ms. Rosenberg stated that Mr. Berg was unsuccessful in obtaining a list of Township office supplies, paper products, cleaning supplies and other Township-wide purchases so he could investigate if greener options were available. He also offered to check the product packaging information at the Township Building since it is likely that many items have some green components already. Ms. Rosenberg felt that the EAC should not expend effort on a green purchasing policy unless the Township was committed to adopting one.

Many green purchasing approaches exist. Ms. Rosenberg previously provided a spreadsheet for documenting each product purchased, its green characteristics, and costs/savings. Although work-intensive, it needs to be created just once for each product. Ms. Duffy

commented that major Township vendors might accommodate requests for greener alternatives to keep the Township's business. Ms. Gibson noted that budget considerations could preclude some green alternatives, which often cost more. Ms. Rosenberg said caveats limiting higher costs could be incorporated into a policy but should consider a variety of cost factors.

Members decided to request a list of the Township's office supplies in order to look for greener options as a first step to a green purchasing effort. Finally, Ms. Gibson commented that she registered for the free webinar on green purchasing recommended by Ms. Rosenberg.

B. Water and Ecology Committee: Ms. Duffy submitted a report (see attached). She noted that the Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership would like to share the water monitoring information and experiences of their "Streamkeepers" and wanted a suggestion for the best setting. Members thought the Public Works Committee would be an appropriate venue. Also, the EAC was asked to help find volunteers for the Elkins Park Train Station planting in October. Ms. Rosenberg will obtain the event details, and Mr. Ahrens will request volunteers via the EAC e-Newsletter.

C. School Liaison Committee: Ms. Rosenberg submitted a report (see attached). Ms. Rosenberg will meet with new School Superintendent Dr. Marseille on October 8 to encourage the creation of a green committee to guide sustainable education, facilities, and health and wellness throughout the School District. Ms. Duffy noted the importance in allowing science teachers some flexibility in their instruction.

Ms. Rosenberg has also arranged with Ms. Shaffron for students to survey people about their knowledge of recycling and clean water practices at the District's Jamboree on October 4. They will use the survey prepared for the Harvest Festival last year. Finally, she announced that Arcadia University offers a course on Green School Programs that requires students to complete

a hands-on project. Ms. Rosenberg will solicit an Arcadia student for a project at Cheltenham School District, such as Ms. Shaffron's hydroponics project.

D. Energy and Emissions Committee: No report.

4. Old Business:

A. Draft Zoning Ordinance: The discussion was tabled.

B. Educating Citizen Committees about Sustainability: The discussion was tabled.

C. Annual Sustainability Report: Ms. Rosenberg thanked Ms. Gibson for her design assistance on the draft. The report includes accomplishments of the Township/EAC, School District and community from 2013 to 2015. It is organized according to the 10 sustainability goals. Ms. Duffy requested that members be emailed copies for review. Ms. Gibson will share the draft at a Township Staff meeting to solicit any missing Township accomplishments. The report will also serve as a Staff review the Sustainability Goals.

5. Announcements: Ms. Gibson announced that Cheltenham Township received a Platinum Award at the GVF Annual Sustainability Breakfast on September 14.

6. Adjournment: Ms. Rosenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Duffy. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

Submitted by: Nancy K. Gibson
Public Information Officer

Meeting Attendance

Environmental Advisory Council

Monday, September 21, 2015 @ 7:30PM
Township Administration Building

(Please Print Clearly)

Name	Email or Other Contact Info	Member (Y/N)
Barbara Duffy	beduffy@comcast.net	Y
Kurt Ahrens	Kfahrens@gmail.com	Y
Lorna Rosenberg	LSRosenberg28@gmail.com	Y

CHELTENHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL- September 21, 2015

Committee: Water & Ecology
Liaison to the Council: Barbara Duffy
Date of last meeting: September 15, 2015
Date of next meeting: October 12, 2015

Questions for the board/larger group:

TTF Partnership would like to put together a presentation by their "StreamKeepers" team to share their water monitoring information and experiences.—What would be the best setting for this-- at an EAC meeting, a special event meeting or BOC meeting?

Action Items Completed:

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- ***TTF Partnership- 1.*** Working with W&E committee on ideas for future riparian care and invasive removal plans. TTF may have some funding to implement a maintenance/training program for riparian areas that have been planted in the past. 2. TTF want to put together a Municipal Task Force committee – a meeting with Municipal leaders is scheduled for 10/22 to discuss this concept and TTF's accomplishments. 3. TTF sent a letter to Township Manager outlining the role and activities of their StreamKeepers. Plans are in the works to develop a presentation (see question above). 4. TTF will hold a public meeting in November on Stormwater & Public Participation— to more fully support the public in understanding their role in contributing to a Pollution Reduction Plan as outlined in the new MS4 regulations. 5. More Rain barrel workshops are being planned for February/March of 2016- target areas include the Glenside and La Mott neighborhoods. 6. For upcoming TTF events & news visit their website listed below.
- ***Curtis Arboretum Master Plan-*** Steering Committee met on September 14th. Committee continues to work on the first draft of the master plan.
- ***Invasive Controls with Public Works & Parks Superintendent*** – TTF has created the list of riparian areas in township parks that should be targeted for invasive control based on past riparian planting. The committee is looking at developing a letter to the township manager which will request Sustainable Management of our public parks and lands and how this can be accomplished with future Park Maintenance leadership and staff.
- ***TreeVitalize-*** November 14th (10am to 2pm) planting at Curtis Arboretum with the ponds being the target areas for plantings. EAC, TTF & Arcadia U. will round up volunteers for the event.
- ***America in Bloom***- 1. Elkins Park Train Station Garden planting -SEPTA has scaled back the planting plan because they want AIB to prove to them that the group can maintain the planted property for a year before allowing more landscaping in the area. Planting is still targeted for October- Columbus weekend. EAC has been asked to arrange for volunteers for the event. 2. An interested group is now forming to put together a planting plan for the Glenside Train Station- They met with SEPTA in 9/15 & more info is to come as this plan develops.
- ***Native Plant Ordinance*** – Montco Planning is helping to locate the draft document. (No word yet.) Discussed with STAC Chair the possibility of forming a new committee to start again on this ordinance.
- ***"Herbicide Application Recommendations" Review-*** No review has been scheduled.
- ***Flooding Projects (DEP & Army Corps)*** – Army Corp presented in May the final draft of the Tookany Creek Watershed Flood Reduction Feasibility Study. The plan is still being reviewed.
- ***Bird Town*** – a meeting will be set up in October with Audubon to get more information on the program. (Small group met in June to start working on putting together volunteers to work on a "Bird Town" subcommittee and to discuss partnering with schools.)

Announcements:

Check out these websites for upcoming events-

HS Park Events: http://highschoolpark.org

Workday weekends in the Fall – check the website for more details.

TTF Watershed Partnership Events: http://ttfwatershed.org/events/

*****W&E committee meets at the Friends of HS Park office every 2nd Monday of the month- all is welcome! *****

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL-
Schools Report

Committee: Schools Committee
Liaison to the Council: Lorna Rosenberg
Date of last meeting: August /September 2015
Date of next meeting: October 8, 2015

Action Items Completed:

- **Wyncote School Opened 9/8/2015**
  - **Student Green Ambassadors formed – Developed indoor signage about the green features of the building**
  - **PTA parent green team**

Action Items In-progress/Pending:

- Glenside School: Students/ Teachers will be receiving Watershed Education from TTF this fall using buffer as a tool
  - New interest in recycling and green issues from PTA
- Cheltenham Elementary School
  - Completed butterfly garden
  - Applied to be an Eco-School with Taiwan partner School
  - Working with CM3 to get the dashboard up and running
  - Asked Ken Hellendall about getting a weather station for the cell tower now at the school
- Myers Elementary School
  - Applied for ECO Schools Wrigley grant for recycling - $500
- Wyncote
  - Need to get more training to the teachers to use school as a teaching tool
  - Asked for material finish samples for students to create a display board of green materials
- Elkins Park and Cedarbrook – have new Principals a chance to discuss sustainability education
- CHS
  - School Environmental Club
  - Applied for ECO Schools Wrigley grant for recycling - $500
  - Recycle awareness program

Announcements:

Green Apple Day of Service projects for October, for all schools
October 4th food truck festival, students will survey and teach about recycling & stormwater – Possible Shoe recycling